

#### **IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:  
a variable display device for variably displaying designs; and  
a front display device disposed in front of the variable display device,  
wherein the front display device includes an electrical display device for allowing  
said variable display device to be observed therethrough and a rear holder for holding  
the electrical display device from a rear side thereof in a facially-opposing manner, the  
rear holder having one or more windows allowing the designs variably displayed in said  
variable display device to be observed therethrough, and that ~~the~~ peripheral corner  
portions in the rear side of the one or more windows are removed therefrom thereby  
forming a stepped-down portion extending from the rear side and partially into the rear  
holder toward the front display device.

2. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein  
said variable display device is one or more rotatable reels each having a reel  
band thereon, on which said designs are drawn.

3. (Original) The reel-based gaming machine according to claims 1 or 2,  
wherein the gaming machine is a slot machine.

4. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:  
a variable display device for variably displaying designs; and  
a front display device disposed in front of the variable display device,  
wherein the front display device includes an electrical display device for allowing  
said variable display device to be observed therethrough and a rear holder for holding  
the electrical display device from a rear side thereof, the rear holder having a front face  
and a rear face defining a thickness therebetween and having one or more windows for  
allowing the designs variably displayed in said variable display device to be observed,  
each window having a first recessed portion formed into the front face and a second

recessed portion formed into the rear face and being larger than the first recessed portion, an interface of the first and second recessed portions being in communication with each other between the front and rear faces to form defining a stepped-down rear holder surface disposed between the front face and the rear face such that the stepped-down rear holder surface surrounds the first recessed portion and extending from the rear face, into the rear holder and partially towards the front face.

5. (New) A gaming machine comprising:  
a variable display device for variably displaying designs; and  
a front display device disposed in front of the variable display device,  
wherein the front display device includes an electrical display device for allowing said variable display device to be observed therethrough and a rear holder for holding the electrical display device from a rear side thereof in a facially-opposing manner, the rear holder having a front face and a rear face defining a thickness therebetween and having at least one window for allowing the designs variably displayed in said variable display device to be observed therethrough, the at least one window having a front recessed window portion formed into the front face and extending partially toward the rear face to terminate in a front recessed opening and a rear recessed window portion formed into the rear face and extending partially toward the front face to terminate in a rear recessed opening, the front recessed window portion and the rear recessed window portion being in communication with one another between the front and rear faces, the rear recessed opening and the front recessed opening coexisting in a common plane as viewed in cross-section with the rear recessed opening surrounding the front recessed opening.